GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:318
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004
ATOMIC POWER GENERATION
Chandel Shri Suresh;Singh Shri Sitaram

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contribution of atomic energy is very less in the total generation of electricity in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the position of India in generation of atomic energy as compared to the other countries of the world;

(c) whether the generation capacity of the atomic energy plants is less in the country; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to increase the generation of atomic energy in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 319 FOR ANSWER ON 22.12.2004 REGARDING ATOMIC POWER GENERATION BY SHRI SURESH CHANDEL; SHRI SITARAM SINGH

(a) During the year 2003-04, the share of nuclear power generation in the total power generation in the country was 3.2%.

(b) The world average share of nuclear power is about 16%. The major producers of nuclear power are developed nations like France (78%), Sweden (50%), Germany (28%), Japan (25%) and USA (20%). The Indian nuclear share is comparable to that of developing countries like Brazil (3.6%) and China (2.2%). The main reason for slow growth of nuclear power in our country was the time it took initially to develop a comprehensive indigenous capability in this frontier technology, in a regime of restrictive trade barriers prevalent internationally. The share of nuclear power is country specific depending upon other available energy options.

(c) The present generation capacity of nuclear power is 2770 MWe.

(d) Nine nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 4460 MWe are presently under construction. On completion of these projects progressively, the installed capacity will reach 6780 (including 50 MWe by upgradation of MAPS-1) MWe by the year 2008 and 7280 by the year 2011. More units are planned so as to progressively increase the nuclear installed capacity.